

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Patent Application of

Simon J. TRATT et al

Serial No. 10/531,241  
(based on PCT/AU03/01370)

Int'l Filing Date: October 26, 2003

For: APPARATUS FOR USE IN VERMICULTURE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Customer Window  
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of each of the foreign-language references listed on Form PTO-1449 is attached.

The references cited in attached Form PTO-1449 include the documents cited in the attached International Search Report issued in connection with the basic International application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and

that this reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Fox', written in a cursive style.

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<b>FORM 1449 (S&amp;J Version)</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <b>BY APPLICANT</b>	Docket No.: 15424.0001	
	Applicant: Simon J. TRATT et al	
	Application No.: 10/531,241	
	Filing Date:	
	Examiner:	Group Art Unit:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner's Initials*	Document No.	Date MM/YYYY	Inventor	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	5,527,373	06/1996	Chareyre	71	9	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner's Initials*	Document No.	Date MM/YYYY	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	WO 99/51545	10/1999	WIPO				
	1998 94187	6/1999	Australia				
	196887	10/1986	Europe				
	887328	12/1998	Europe				

OTHER DOCUMENTS	
Examiner's Initials*	Include author, title of article, title of item (book, journal, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Examiner's Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.